

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL,
CONTINUATION, OR C-I-P)

As a below named inventor, we hereby declare that:

TYPE OF DECLARATION

This declaration is for an original application.

INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION

Our residences post office addresses and citizenships are as stated below, next to our name. We believe that We are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter that is claimed, and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

TITLE OF INVENTION

VALVE ELEMENT

SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

The specification is attached hereto.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

We hereby appoint the following practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

We hereby appoint the practitioner(s) associated with the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

27023

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO

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DECLARATION

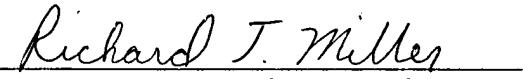
We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

SIGNATURE(S)

Richard T. Miller

Inventor's signature

Date 1/20/04



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